CLASSIFICATION

25X1A `

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SUBJECT

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New Airport at Singal

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

- 1. On 1 November 1949, construction was begun on a new airport at Sinmak (126-14, 38-26), North Korea. Work was supposed to be completed by Christmas 1949. The field, 120,000 pyong (1,224 pyong equal one acre) in extent, is about a kilometer and a half north of the Sinmak railway station and across the Sinmak River, near a dairy farm. The land for the airport was expropriated, with the promise that owners would receive other land in compensation. This never materialized, however, and after being sent to work in local coal mines, most of the owners were transferred to coal mines in other areas.
- 2. The airport is being built with compulsory labor from all the provinces of North Korea. Each province was originally to contribute ten days labor from one hundred men, with a daily mobilization of eighteen hundred men. Only about a thousand are actually available, and the construction work has been correspondingly delayed and is not expected to be finished by its announced termination date. Workers are expected to feed and house thereselves during their ten days at the field and are not paid for their labor. Their working hours are from seven to five. Although many workers object to the forced labor and its conditions, the penalties for failure to serve are so sewere that few men are willing to revolt.
- The person in charge of construction at the field is CHONG Un-kyong, aged 36 head of the Organization Section of the Sinmak Labor Party. 25X1A

Comment. A report that an airfield was being built at Sinmak at the stated time. However, the two reports differ in many details.

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> This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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